

F-9185

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Takayuki KURODA, et al.
Serial No. : (U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/002997
Filed March 8, 2004)
Filed : (Concurrently herewith)
For : CLAMPING DEVICE
Group Art Unit : UNKNOWN
Examiner : UNKNOWN

July 31, 2006
New York, New York

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the six references listed therein. Also enclosed is an English language copy of PCT/JP2004/002997 International Search Report listing five of the six references listed in Form PTO-1449.

10/587556
IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 JUL 2006

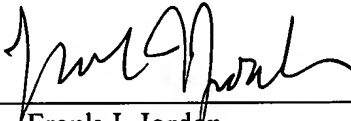
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This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to issuance of the first Official Action. Therefore, there is no charge for filing this IDS.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449 (Rev. 7-80) 42-44F (F-49)		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No.: F-9185		Serial No.: (U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/002997 filed March 8, 2004)	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant: Takayuki KURODA, et al.			
				Filing Date: (Concurrently herewith)		Group: (UNKNOWN)	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	U1	US- 6,095,509	8/1/2000	Yonezawa			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	<div style="text-align: center;">Translation</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> Yes No </div>
	F1	EP- 0 925 871	6/30/1999	EP			Y ^F
	F2	JP- 5-41644	6/8/1993	JP			N ^F
	F3	EP- 1 078 713	2/28/2001	EP			Y ^F
	F1	DE- 40 20 981	1/16/1992	DE			Y ^C
	F5	JP- 11-188551	7/13/1999	JP			Y ^C
TRANSLATION KEY: * English Abstract. ^F Concise statement of relevance provided in foreign search report. ^C Concise statement of relevance provided in specification or in attachment to document. ^S Concise statement of relevance provided in IDS. ^P Relevant portion of document translated. ^O English abstract only - copy of document in pct search.							
OTHER INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATIONS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							